

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested. The title has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. No claims have been amended or canceled. Claims 1-8 remain pending in the present application.

Claims 1-2 and 4-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,285,891 to Hoshino ("Hoshino") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,195,568 to Irvin ("Irvin"). Claim 1 recites, in part, a "voice detection means for receiving an input voice signal and for providing voice activation of at least one function of the device...". Claims 2 and 6 recite, in part, an electronic device having "at least one voice activated function." In addition, claim 6 recites, in part, "using an associated group of reference signals for voice signal matching in a chosen operating mode."

In contrast, Hoshino teaches a device that requires a user to press a mode selection button to select a particular operation mode. See Hoshino, Figures 3-5, 7, col. 3, lines 44-46, col. 5, lines 11-13, and col. 6, lines 30-50. Hoshino does not teach, suggest, or imply voice activated functions as recited in claims 1, 2, and 6. Irvin does not remedy the deficiencies of Hoshino in that Irvin also does not teach or suggest voice activated functions. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 2, and 6 distinguish over the combination of Hoshino and Irvin and request that the §103 rejection of claims 1, 2, and 6 be withdrawn.

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoshino, and Irvin in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,961,212 to Marui et al. ("Marui"). Claim 3 is directly dependent from either claim 1 or claim 2 and should distinguish over the combination of Hoshino and Irvin for at least the same reasons as stated above. Marui does not remedy the deficiencies of Hoshino and Irvin, and Applicants request that the §103 rejection of claim 3 be withdrawn.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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